Revenue receipts as Customs Duty and Excise Duty on Radio, Television and VCR sets etc.

2300. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of revenue receipts, as customs duty, and excise duty on Radio sets, TV sets, VCRs, transmitting and electronic equipments imported and manufactured in the country separately during each of the last three years;

(b) what are the losses incurred by Government on account of radio broadcasts and TV telecasts which are not able to meet their expenses from the advertisements during the same period; and

(c) what would be the estimated deficit and by when the Akashvani and Doordarshan are likely to become autonomous ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) The information regarding excise revenue on reception apparatus for radio broadcasting, television receivers (including video monitors and projectors) separately during each of the last three years, is given in the Statement (*See* below). On the custom side, it is not possible to give similar information as some of these items are imported in baggages and that too not in a regulated manner.

(b) The object of All India Radio and Doordarshan is to provide information, education and entertainment to the people. Electronic media is envisaged as catalyst for social change, to promote national integration, stimulate appreciation of our cultural heritage and create awareness among the people about development processes. To achieve this, the media is not guided by commercial considerations and profit and loss account and balance sheets are not prepared. The budget support which Government provide is classified as expenditure on "Social Services" and not as "Loss". All India Radio and Doordarshan are attached offices of the Government.

(c) At 1989-90 level of expenditure on Akashvani and Doordarshan the Central Government is funding them to the extent of Rs. 55.28 crores on Non Plan Account (net, after taking into account receipts and recoveries of Rs. 313.17 crores) and Rs. 408.01 crores on Plan Account (net).

According to the present estimates, the Corporation would become operational by January 1, 1991 subject to the passing of the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Bill, 1989 by both Houses of Parliament in the current session.

Statement

Central excise revenue records are maintained as per the budget head namely, "RECEPTION APPARATUS FOR RADIO BROADCASTING, TELEVISION RECEIVERS (INCLUDING VIDEO MONITORS AND PROJECTORS)" which is given below:—

EXCISE REVENUE ON RECEPTION APPARATUS FOR RADIO BROADCSTING TELEVISION RECEIVERS (INCLUDING VIDEO MONITORS AND PROJECTORS)

	Excise revenue (Rs. in crores)
1986-87	120.05
1987-88	114.43
1988-89	139.46

Besides, duties collected from Additional Duties of Excise (Television sets) leviable under Section 49 of the Finance Act, 1985, is as follows:—

	(Rs.in crores)
1986-87	27.53
1987-88	38.65
1988-89	48.11

Charter of demands by ED employees union

2301. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharatiya Extra Departmental Employees Union has submitted any charter of demands of the Department in February, 1990; if so, what is the response of Government thereto;

(b) what are the recommendations of Savoor Committee of ED Employees which have been accepted by Government so far; and

(c) whether casual labourers with three years service in the P&T Department have been given departmental status as per the judgement of Supreme Court of India; if so, what action is being taken to treat the ED employees at par with the casual labourers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) The charter of demands of Bharatiya Extra Departmental Employees Union dated 7-2-90 is under consideration and the General Secretary of the Union will be appraised of the position in due course.

(b) Except to the extent indicated in the attached statement, [*See* Appendix CLIV, Annexure No. 107] orders have been issued for implementation of the accepted recommendations wherever there is need for issue of orders in this regard. The items rejected and the reasons thereof have been placed on the Table of the House on 12-10-87 while implementing an assurance given during 141st Session, 1987 of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1816, dated 11-3-1987.

(c) A scheme for granting temporary status to casual labourers in accordance with the decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court has been prepared and submitted to nodal Departments/Ministries to consider the related issues from all angles. The Supreme Court judgement is in respect of casual labourers and is not applicable to ED employees. The casual labourers are wholly dependent on the income they derive from the Government, whereas Extra Departmental Agents are part-time employees of the Department having other avocations of life to supplement their income with working hours varying from 3 to 5 hours a day with other service conditions different from those of casual labourers.

Vacant posts in group 'D' and Postman cadre

2302. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the number of vacancies lying vacant as on 31st December, 1989 in Group D and in postman cadre; the number of ED